

would be fair in his dealings. I think he has kept that commitment. I make the same pledge to him. I have learned some lessons being in the minority and being in the majority and being back and forth. It is a humbling experience. I think you learn that you have to do some things differently. I hope I will do them better. And I will need his help. So I believe we will find a way to work together for the best interests of this institution and for our country.

I thank the many people associated with this Chamber, too.

As I said to Senator SMITH, it is far too often we forget to thank the people who make this place work: the people who turn on the lights, the policemen who work to keep us and our constituents and our staffs safe, the elevator operators, the custodians, the pages. All of these people who work in this Chamber and in this building are an important part of getting our job done. So to you all, I express my appreciation on behalf of myself and the Senate because you do a great job.

With that, I would just like to conclude by wishing everyone a safe, happy holiday season. We need this respite. In the end, faith and family are more important even than what happens here.

Now we will have a chance to spend some time thinking about those things and being with the ones we love the most. I look forward to returning in January. I look forward to seeing all of my colleagues as we begin the work that needs to be done for a stronger and freer America and peace in the world.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I indicated I will return to the floor in a short while. But while he is here, let me thank the distinguished Republican leader for his generous words. He spoke for both of us in recounting what we have experienced over the course of the last 2 years.

This has been an extraordinarily eventful 107th Congress. He did not mention, but I know he could have gone on to include the war in Afghanistan, extraordinary challenges on Wall Street, amazing things on the war on terror that we have confronted, breakfasts with the President as we attempted to confront these challenges one by one in a bipartisan way.

So this has been extraordinarily eventful. You have to go back a long ways—a half a century—to find a time when power shifted within one Congress from one party to the other. I told him at the time—and I have since reiterated to him—how impressed I was in the way with which in our relationship he accepted that transfer of power. I hope I can be equally as magnanimous, and I hope to demonstrate that that will be the case beginning in January.

He and I have developed a relationship that is built on a great deal of ex-

perience. And from that experience comes trust and affection.

He also did not mention a great moment in both of our lives: when we became grandfathers. That has been a special treasure for both of us. And we have shared those moments about family and about grandchildren, as we have experienced them for the first time.

So I look forward to working again very closely with him in yet another role. I hope that it can be even more productive. I hope that we both can learn lessons from this experience. I hope that we both can send a message to the American people that we mean to govern well, and, as I tell people sometimes, it is difficult to legislate, recognizing that with 240 million people in the same room, we have to reach a consensus about issues as challenging as homeland security. We will continue to do that with our colleagues, and with the best intentions, recognizing the expectations of the American people.

So I thank him again for his courtesies, his friendship, and the leadership he has shown, and express to him, in the most heartfelt way, how much I look forward to working with him again.

Mr. President, I have one final resolution, and that is the adjournment resolution.

PROVIDING FOR THE SINE DIE ADJOURNMENT OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Con. Res. 160, submitted earlier; that the concurrent resolution be considered and agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 160) was agreed to, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 160

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That when the Senate adjourns at the close of business on any day from Wednesday, November 20, 2002 through Saturday, November 23, 2002, or from Monday, November 25, 2002 through Wednesday, November 27, 2002, or on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader, or his designee, it stand adjourned sine die, or until Members are notified to reassemble pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the House of Representatives adjourns on any legislative day through the remainder of the second session of the One Hundred Seventh Congress on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned sine die, or until Members are notified to reassemble pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. The Majority Leader of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, or their re-

spective designees, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the Senate and the Minority Leader of the House, shall notify the Members of the Senate and the House, respectively, to reassemble at such place and time as they may designate whenever, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I oppose this adjournment resolution. While I am eager to return home to Maine, there is critical unfinished business here in Washington. We should not adjourn prior to passing a prescription drug benefit for our seniors as well as legislation to remedy inadequate Medicare reimbursements that are jeopardizing the viability of our home health agencies, rural hospitals, and nursing homes. Cuts in Medicare are also discouraging physicians from accepting Medicare patients.

These health care problems should be solved now, not delayed until next year. Medicare reimbursements must be adequate to cover the costs borne by health care providers in caring for our seniors and disabled citizens. And our elderly have already waited too long for prescription drug coverage.

Finally, we should have given final approval to legislation authored by Senators NELSON, SMITH, ROCKEFELLER, and myself to increase Medicaid rates to provide fiscal relief to the States and to prevent cuts in health care for low-income families.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I have come to the Chamber this morning to address an issue, which is familiar to many Americans but one on which they may not know the details, the important life-or-death information.

Yesterday, a Federal court in Birmingham, AL, found for four plaintiffs and against a company known as Metabolife International of San Diego and awarded the four plaintiffs \$4.1 million for strokes, heart attacks suffered by the plaintiffs as a result of ephedra diet pills. These diet pills and Metabolife are pretty well known across America. You can hardly go into a drugstore, gas station or a convenience store and not run into this little familiar container, Metabolife 356, "an herbal formula to enhance your diet and provide energy." Unfortunately, this apparently innocent looking product has caused a great deal of physical injury and death.

I received today from my State of Illinois, near my hometown of Springfield, a report from the Logan County coroner, Chuck Fricke, a report on the sad death of a young man named Sean Riggins, a 16-year-old who died on September 3 of this year. Sean Riggins was the picture of health, a high school football player and wrestler. He was the apple of his parents' eye. He was